

January 2025



COVENANT

Inclusive, Open-Minded and Home for Your Soul.

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Sunday Morning Schedule
11:00am in the Sanctuary
See P. 4 for livestream

Important Jan. Dates ...

2025 Office hours:

Rev. Dr. Sandlin:
M appt. only; W, Th., 9-3
Kate Baird: M-F, 9-3

1/01: New Year's Day,
office closed

1/8: Session Mtg., 6:00pm,
Fellowship Hall

1/10: Out of The Garden
Project, 3:00pm

1/11: Work Day, Decora-
tions stored

1/12: Pennies 4 Hunger
Collection

1/14: Sierra Club, 6:00pm,
Fellowship Hall

1/19: Fellowship Lunch,
12:00pm following service

1/20: Federal Holiday, MLK
Day

1/20: Outreach Comm.
Mtg., 2:00pm; Fellowship
Comm. Mtg., 3:00pm

1/27: Special Concert w/
Unity, Flamy Grant ,
7:00pm, Sanctuary

Presbyterian Church of the Covenant



The Covenant Compendium

A Letter from Reverend Sandlin

As we enter into a new calendar year, it is both a privilege and a joy for me to be a part of our spiritual community. At PCoC, we come together not just as individuals but as a collective—a progressive Christian group committed to living out our values and beliefs in a world that often feels divided, this year maybe more than most.

This past year has challenged us in many ways, at times, testing our resolve and our spirits. Yet, it has also illuminated our paths, revealing opportunities for growth, understanding, and compassion.

As we step into this new year, let's carry forward the lessons learned and the resilience we've built. Together, we can lean into the promise of renewal, embracing the possibilities that lie ahead. Let us step forward with courage, guided by our faith and our shared vision of what PCoC can become. May we inspire one another to act boldly, to love deeply, and to serve generously.

So as we turn the page into this new chapter, let us do so with hope, determination, and an unwavering commitment to our values. Here's to a year of growth, connection, and meaningful impact.

Together, let's make it a year to remember.

Sunday Service Information, January 2025

January 5:

Music: Stephanie Lindley
Usher: Nancy Schaefer

January 19: *Fellowship Luncheon*

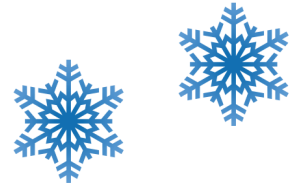
Music: Stephanie Lindley
Usher: Celia Starling

January 12: *Pennies 4 Hunger*

Music: Stephanie Lindley
Usher: Clara Kelly

January 26:

Music: Stephanie Lindley
Usher: Nancy Schaefer



Session Meeting Minutes, December 11th, 2024

NEW BUSINESS:

Presbytery's Spiritual Vitality Form: All present participated in filling out the form. Margaret sent it and other materials for responses/recommendations.

OLD BUSINESS

Revisioning Update/offer on buildings: Flywheel and Sherbert have decided to make a joint offer on the buildings, will meet in January. The Preservation Greensboro Development Fund is interested in adaptive re-use of the buildings, but must meet to discuss. A real estate developer is also potentially interested in the property, Mark will also reach out to Jodi for more information on the Foundry, a group that assists churches (not part of the Presbytery).

Elder nominating committee report: The candidates' names were presented at a Called Congregational Meeting Congregation on 22 December.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Resource Committee: The church has received a \$25K donation from an anonymous donor. Mitch mentioned the latest developments for the church: 1. Inform the Presbytery of our situation and see what help it can give. At a previous church, when the Presbytery offered assistance, it tried to use that to make the church conform more closely to the Book of Order, so he suggested that we make sure of what we want when we ask for help. 2. The \$25K contribution can be used as a challenge grant; this idea will be discussed at the next Finance Committee meeting. 3. If we can't sell the buildings, perhaps we can turn them into a nonprofit. 4. If we need cash flow, sell the Walker Av. parking lot.

Treasurer report: Nancy reported that pledges for next year are up, but rents are down. She presented the suggested budget for next year, assuming we will be in the building for all 12 months. Budget was accepted.

Worship: Mark and Stephanie collaborated on the Christmas Eve service.

Spiritual Formation: Sunday Study Group had a Zoom meeting with former pastor Jim Dollar in December, and will begin a new study on January 12th.

Buildings and Grounds: Boiler problems and roof leak were remediated. Leaf clean up was done in early December. .

Communications: Working on website updates. .

Fellowship: Fellowship luncheon was Dec. 15th. The Committee is planning the 2025 schedule. Joy will continue to help; Ralph will continue as Chair.

Outreach: The Committee has been very busy in 2024. An activity summary appears in the Jan. newsletter.

Personnel: The Committee met with Mark and is working on questions for its interview with Kate in January. Stephanie's contract needs to be renewed.

Congregational Care: In October, 76 contacts were made by 7 participants. In November, there were 29 contacts by 7 providers

Mark gave a heartfelt thanks to the Session members who are rotating off this month: Clara, Ralph and Nancy, and pointed out how active they have been and how much they have contributed to the church and the Session leadership THANK YOU!!

January News & Events

The Sunday Study Group begins a new book on Sunday, Jan. 12th, "The Mystic Jesus: The Mind of Love", by Marianne Williamson. The book is available at Amazon, and we'll discuss the Introduction. Email Ann Finch to join the Zoom call: ann.mcintosh.finch@gmail.com

Please see Page 1 in the green column for monthly events and meetings, including the Fellowship Luncheon on Sunday, Jan. 19th following the service. As always, please bring a favorite dish to share with the group. Drinks will be provided.

The office will be closed on Monday, Jan. 20th in observance of the M. L. King, Jr. federal holiday.

On Monday, Jan. 27th at 7:00pm, we'll have an exciting concert with famous singer Flamy Grant (see flyer on Page 4!).

Volunteers are needed to help take down and store our holiday decorations on Saturday, Jan. 11th at 9:30am. Meet in the Fellowship Hall for assignments. Contact Clara Kelly to volunteer: clerkelly@gmail.com

Please continue to lift the North family in your thoughts and prayers as they move forward with care for him after his recent cancer diagnosis. Please contact Barbara at: woodnotes2004@gmail.com to offer support or schedule a visit.

Outreach Committee Extends Thanks for 2024 Efforts

A big thank you to the congregation for participating in outreach efforts in 2024! Here's what we did:

- * Pennies for Hunger - collected \$793
- * Collected and delivered egg cartons for Spartan Open Pantry
- * Collected plastic grocery bags for Vandalia Presbyterian Food Pantry
- * Held a successful letter writing campaign on behalf of Bread for the World
- * Presbyterian Mission - donated farm animals
- * Surveyed the Congregation for outreach ideas
- * Out of the Garden - approximately 46 volunteer hours
- * Vandalia Food Pantry - approximately 19 volunteer hours
- * Habitat for Humanity - served lunch for volunteers and crew in May and September; served breakfast at the first Pride Build
- * Foust Elementary - collected school supplies
- * Spartan Open Pantry Food Drive - partnered with College Hill Neighborhood, 30+ boxes of food and toiletries collected and delivered
- * CROP Walk - 5 walkers raised \$1,340
- * Monetary donations made to Green for Greens, Faith Action International, Greensboro Farmers Curb Market, Presbyterian Disaster Relief (Helene)
- * A Simple Gesture - several members participating

Reminder: Inclement Weather Procedures

Service cancellations due to inclement weather will be announced via email, posted on our Facebook site, and will be listed on WFMY (Channel 2, CBS) and WXII (Channel 12, NBC). If county schools are closed, the church office will likely be closed; email the office or leave a voicemail.

Special Concert in January! Don't miss Flamy Grant!

FLAMY GRANT

“Catchy, rabble-rousing folk of the Pete Seeger and Woody Guthrie variety.”

Nick Spacek,
The Pitch Kansas City

“Her vocals soar... A mix of Wynona Judd smokiness and Dolly Parton realness. Her lyrics sparkle as brightly as her rhinestone jumpsuit.”

Andy Kaufman,
Music Connection Magazine

GREENSBORO, NC
Unity in Greensboro +
Presbyterian Church of the Covenant
MON, JAN 27 • 7PM
\$25 • ALL AGES

Join us Online for Services and Fellowship

On Sundays at 11:00am, our service is broadcast live at these sites:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCar8ZVg434DF1uTtL86JEhg> (YouTube)

<https://www.facebook.com/PCoC.GSO/>

<https://www.facebook.com/revmarksandlin>

<https://www.facebook.com/marksandlin>

<https://www.facebook.com/TheChristianLeft>

<https://www.facebook.com/christiansmisrepresented>

<https://www.facebook.com/thegodarticle>

And see us on Meetup.com at:
[Meetup.com/Presbyterian-Church-of-the-Covenant](https://www.meetup.com/Presbyterian-Church-of-the-Covenant)

Check us out online! www.athinkingchurch.org



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